

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 Archive copies of active computer files are generated and stored when a computer file is created or copied onto a computer system. These archive copies are compared with the current active copies upon subsequent access to detect malicious alterations in the active copies. If such alterations are detected, then a repair of the active copy may be made by replacing it with the archived copy. This replacement may be subject to user 10 confirmation or user defined rules. The technique may be selectively applied to certain file types, such as executable files or dynamic link libraries, that are known to infrequently change during normal use.

[Figure 5]